

## MPs' vigilance allows safe operations

By Spc. Karlene Hemerly-Fluck  
109<sup>th</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** — Their hard work and ensured safety often go unnoticed. But Bagram's Military Police provide many services to the soldiers here.

The 377<sup>th</sup> Military Police Detachment, an Army Reserve unit from Indianapolis, Ind., have been in Bagram since Aug. 2002 helping to keep soldiers safe, and are now nearing their final days.

During their deployment here, the unit has provided a variety of services. One of their main missions is 24-hour security around the base — working 12-hour shifts.

"The job is rewarding knowing we are keeping everyone safe," said Sgt. Jay House, 377<sup>th</sup> MP Det.

Sometimes the reservist's dedication is overlooked, but these soldiers have proved that Afghanistan is no weekend trip.

Besides providing force protection, this company of MPs also perform search and seizure of contraband explosives and weapons; enforce traffic laws, the proper wear of military uniform and any other regulations that apply to the inhabitants and visitors to the air base.

They also interact with local Afghans daily, and play a large part in gaining trust and building relationships with the locals.



Photo by Spc. Karlene Hemerly-Fluck, 109<sup>th</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

*1st Lt. Chris Collins, platoon leader, 377<sup>th</sup> Military Police Detachment, squeezes through a barrier as he does his rounds, checking in on his MP gate guards.*

See **MPs**, Page 3

## Deployment mailing do's, don'ts

Pfc. Christina Carde  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** — Before mailing home a letter or having family send in a care package, soldiers should first be aware of some Army post office do's and don'ts.

Many factors such as wrong mailing addresses, insufficient postage and illegal or banned material can result in mail arriving late or not at all.

"The only mail that is free is correspondence mail up to 13 ounces," said Capt. Aaron Even, postal company commander,

175<sup>th</sup> Postal Company, Fort Lewis, Wash.

"Anything over 13 ounces will need the required amount of postage depending on weight and destination prior to sending, or the receiving party could be charged the difference," said Even.

In addition to postage, other things are required if a package is heavy or expensive.

"If the value of a package is over \$50, we suggest you insure it," said Even. "You will also need a customs form for almost everything you send out."

Before a package can be mailed, it is first checked to ensure the contents can

legally be shipped.

"Items such as alcohol, pornography, tobacco products and weapons cannot be mailed from here, and soldiers should encourage their families not to send them," said Even. "All packages are screened before sending, to ensure these items do not enter or leave Bagram."

Even though x-ray technology and the human eye can detect most contraband, Even said some does slip through.

"If a soldier sends out banned material we don't catch; the next post office will more than likely discover it," said Even. "At this

See **MAIL**, Page 4

# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

## Rumsfeld: France, Germany are 'problems' in Iraqi conflict

**WASHINGTON** — U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld Wednesday dismissed French and German insistence that “everything must be done to avoid war” with Iraq, saying most European countries stand with the United States in its campaign to force Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to disarm.

“Germany has been a problem, and France has been a problem,” said Rumsfeld, a former NATO ambassador. “But you look at vast numbers of other countries in Europe. They’re not with France and Germany on this, they’re with the United States.”

Germany and France represent “old Europe,” and NATO’s expansion in recent years means “the center of gravity is shifting to the east,” Rumsfeld said.

French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said Wednesday in Paris they were not convinced a war with Iraq was necessary while U.N. arms inspectors were still searching Iraq for weapons of mass destruction.

“Any decision belongs to the Security Council and the Security Council alone, which will address the issue after having examined the latest inspectors’ report,” Chirac said. “Secondly, as far as we’re concerned, war always means failure.”

## Al-Qaida turns to assassination

**KABUL**, Afghanistan — Al-Qaida has been associated with high-profile, explosive terror — Sept. 11, bombings in Pakistan, Kenya, Indonesia and the Philippines — but appears to be turning from mass killings to the assassination of political figures.

Coalition intelligence sources tell CNN that al-Qaida plans to target Western diplomats and other public officials wherever it can.

In late October, U.S. diplomat Laurence Foley was killed outside his Amman, Jordan, home by two men, who were captured and confessed to being members of al-Qaida.

Jordanian authorities said the men told them that Foley, a senior administrative officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development, “was not their main target,”



*Jordanian officials investigate the assassination, last October, of U.S. diplomat Laurence Foley.*

and that they were planning to kill other Americans in Jordan.

## Arrest made in shootings

**RIYADH**, Saudi Arabia — Authorities have arrested a Kuwaiti man who claims to have carried out the attack on two Americans ambushed at a traffic intersection in Kuwait City on Tuesday, an official Saudi government source told CNN.

The government source said Saudi authorities arrested Sami Mohammed Marzouk Obaid Al-Mutayri as he tried to walk across the border from Kuwait around 5 a.m.

He was alone when he tried to enter Saudi Arabia.

The suspect, described as a Kuwaiti psychiatrist about 30 to 35 years old, confessed to the attack after several hours of questioning, the source said.

The Saudi government has informed Kuwaiti authorities about the arrest, but it has not elaborated on when it might extradite the suspect.

The Tuesday attack killed Michael Rene Pouliot, 46, of San Diego, Calif., who died at the scene, the U.S. Embassy reported. David Caraway, who was driving the vehicle, was shot six times but is expected to survive, authorities said.

## Famed WWII cartoonist dies at 81

**NEWPORT BEACH**, Calif. — Bill Mauldin, the Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist who portrayed World War II reality laced with humor, died Wednesday. He was 81.

Mauldin, one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century’s pre-



*1945, Stars & Stripes: Fresh, spirited American troops, flushed with victory, are bringing in thousands of hungry, ragged, battle-weary prisoners (used with a news story).*

eminent editorial cartoonists, died of complications from Alzheimer’s disease, including pneumonia, at a Newport Beach nursing home, said Andy Mauldin, 54, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, one of the cartoonist’s seven sons.

“It’s really good that he’s not suffering anymore,” he said. “He had a terrible struggle.”

His characters Willie and Joe, a laconic pair of unshaven, mud-encrusted dogfaces, slogged their way through Italy and other parts of battle-scarred Europe.

They were the vessels that Mauldin, a young Army rifleman, filled with wry understatement to portray the tedium and treachery of war, entertaining and endearing himself to millions of fellow soldiers in the war and to Americans at home.

## Bush calls for protection of ‘children waiting to be born’

**WASHINGTON** — In a phone call broadcast to anti-abortion protesters gathered on the National Mall, President Bush vowed Wednesday “to protect the lives of innocent children waiting to be born” and said his administration would promote “compassionate alternatives” to abortion.

Speaking from St. Louis — where he touted his package of proposed tax breaks — Bush called on Congress to pass a bill banning a late-term abortion procedure that critics call a partial-birth abortion.



**MPs**, from Page 1

"The job is pure chaos but well organized," said Spc. Nathan Jones, 377<sup>th</sup> MP Det. "Everyday there is a plan in place to get the job done safely and correctly."

There is no rest for the weary when you are an MP. They are on their feet all day, and must wear a Kevlar helmet and a 35-pound protective vest while on duty.

This itself can be draining, but these soldiers encounter additional stress.

Part of force protection is searching all vehicles that try to enter the air base.

This is a job that requires each soldier to be thorough and assertive. There are days when MPs have to refuse entry to local drivers. Some of the drivers turn around without incident, but there are some who want to fight and argue.

Platoon leader 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Chris Collins, 377<sup>th</sup> MP Det., said he has worked closely with these soldiers during the past five months and has developed a great respect for them. He has also formed some lasting friendships.

"Their morale has been sky high, they are positive and do not complain," Collins said.

As with all reservists, these soldiers have to balance being a soldier and having a civilian life — often giving up what is precious to them to serve their country.

They leave their jobs and families behind, break leases and move personal belongings to storage. Some also give up a higher-paying job — all of this to be a soldier.

"It is an endless list of things to do before departing home for six months to a year," said House.

These dedicated soldiers will re-deploy in five weeks and return to their loved ones. But when they finally depart, they will take with them the memories and experiences of Afghanistan, some to share with others and others to keep to themselves.

Sgt. Theodore Schwartz, 377<sup>th</sup> MP Det., is looking forward to going home to his black Labrador, Daisy, and said he does not regret having spent time here. "I looked forward to this mission; I had no ties back home. I just wanted to help my country."

## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "Office Space." Peter Gibbons, thanks to a hypnotic suggestion, decides not to go to work at the same time his company is laying people off. When layoffs affect his two best friends, they conspire to plant a virus that will embezzle money from the company into their account.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Solaris."



## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Friday</i>
<b>Bagram:</b>	<i>Haze</i> H: 59F L: 29F	<i>Haze</i> H: 59F L: 25F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 59F L: 36F	<i>Haze</i> H: 61F L: 39F
<b>Kabul:</b>	<i>Haze</i> H: 55F L: 25F	<i>Haze</i> H: 52F L: 27F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	<i>Mostly cloudy</i> H: 49F L: 30F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 50F L: 33F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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CJTF-180 Commander —

Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill

CJTF-180 Command Sergeant Major —

Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England

Public Affairs Officer —

Col. Roger King

Public Affairs Sergeant Major —

Master Sgt. Kelly Tyler

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Commander — Maj. William Mott

NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

Editor — Sgt. W. Cullen James

Journalists — Pfc. Christina Carde,

Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

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To be added to the daily distribution list email [william.james@us.army.mil](mailto:william.james@us.army.mil)

# Powell urges U.N. to not 'shrink' from disarming Iraq

By Kathleen T. Rhem  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** — Secretary of State Colin Powell urged his counterparts from U.N. Security Council member nations not to shrink away from their duties and responsibilities regarding the disarmament of Iraq.

"We cannot be shocked into impotence because we're afraid of the difficult choices that are ahead of us. And so we'll have much work to do, difficult work, in the days ahead," he said Jan. 20 in New York.

"But we cannot shrink from the responsibilities of dealing with a regime that has gone about development, acquiring, stocking of weapons of mass destruction; that has committed terrorist acts against its neighbors and against its own people; (and) trampled human rights of its own people and its neighbors," said Powell.

Powell's comments came at a Security Council ministerial session on halting terrorism. Bush administration officials have consistently maintained disarming Iraq is

part of the war on terrorism.

Iraq was given a last chance to disarm in Security Council Resolution 1441, approved unanimously Nov. 8, 2002. On Dec. 8, Iraq delivered a declaration of their weapons and weapons programs. U.N. inspectors have been working in the country to verify disarmament. The inspectors are scheduled to brief the Security Council on their findings Jan. 27.

In a press conference after the session, Powell said the U.S. government "anxiously await(s) the chief inspector's report," but said he would not "prejudge" what would come next.

The United States and other countries have threatened military action to force Iraq to disarm. The government of Iraq insists the country has no weapons of mass destruction, while the Bush administration has steadfastly maintained the Dec. 8 declaration is completely false. Powell said the discovery Jan. 16 in Baghdad of a dozen empty warheads designed to carry chemical weapons is a perfect example of Iraq's deception.

Iraq disclosed four more such warheads Jan. 19. Iraqi government officials said the warheads had been overlooked in accounting.

"They have known for years how many chemical weapons, warheads they have. And so we had to discover, the inspectors had to discover, another cache of them last week. And then suddenly today or yesterday, the Iraqis say, 'Oh, by the way, we found four more,'" Powell said.

"They know what they have. It is their obligation to come forward. And we cannot let them dribble this information, and dribble these items out for as long as they choose to in an effort to thwart the will of the international community," He said.

He told reporters the United Nations must be firm with Iraq to remain relevant.

"There's no question that Iraq continues not to understand the seriousness of the position that it is in," Powell said. "And this is the time for it to realize that we will not just allow Iraq to frustrate the will of the United Nations, of the international community."

## MAIL, from Page 1

point, the soldier has already signed their name to a customs form and is guilty of a federal offense. So in a sense, we are doing them a favor by physically checking their package prior to sending it."

Aside from illegal or banned material, Even suggested other items not be sent for other purposes.

"Substances such as baby or drink powder, shampoo and carbonated drinks should not be mailed," said Even. "As packages go through customs, they are pressurized as a precaution and these items will burst."

"Other items such as rocks, soil and animal furs are not allowed to be mailed from here," he said. "This is for health reasons, to protect against foreign diseases."

Another common problem is packages being sent to the wrong post office, resulting in lost or stolen mail.

Even said there are ways to avoid this.

"Troops should tell their families to address packages with their name, unit and

APO zip code only. Putting the name of the post or country can result in the packages being sent to the local post office. If this happens, the package will probably never reach the intended recipient.

"In addition, troops should burn all envelopes with families' addresses to prevent the information from falling into the wrong hands," Even said.

Although mail issues do arise, Even said there are few instances here where troops can't mail or receive a package for any of these reasons.

According to Even, he is as eager to help troops send and receive packages as they are.

"We are open seven days a week to help troops send and receive their mail successfully and in a timely fashion. All we ask that the troops give an occasional 'thanks' to their local mail clerk."

For additional information on the post office, its hours are 0400Z to 1600Z Thursdays through Tuesdays, and 0400Z to 0830Z Wednesdays.



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

**Spc. Heather Roed, civil affairs specialist, 450<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), Riverdale, Md., mails a greeting card home through the free mail system. Free mail is available to all troops whose correspondence is less than 13 ounces.**



# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

## Hull's moment as fleeting as his shot

ESPN — It's a jungle out there, in the high slot, where claws come out and teeth are bared, not fit for man nor beast.

"Like the animal kingdom," Brett Hull was musing recently. "Adapt or go extinct."

He has become, oddly enough, one of the game's true survivors.

The onetime soft, lazy, uncoachable kid is now midway through his 16<sup>th</sup> NHL season, a two-time Stanley Cup winner, a team guy, a surefire Hall of Famer, a penalty killer, and someone on the verge of a major career milestone that only a handful of others can claim.

He continues to entertain us off the ice (when the mood strikes him) and draw appreciative smiles on it.

"I am," he told the national network on CBC's Hockey Night in Canada last month, only, as usual, partly serious, "smarter than everybody in this game, beyond a shadow of a doubt."

Maybe not smarter, precisely. But craftier, yes, there's certainly a case to be made for that.

"Brett," said New Jersey goaltender Martin Brodeur during a media conference call Tuesday, "is still the most dangerous player in the league."

Imagine. Still. At 38.

We had an inkling as far back as Hull's first NHL shift — during the '86 Stanley Cup final while a member of the Calgary Flames (he beat Patrick Roy with what would become a patented snap shot and hit the post) — that this one was special for more than just his last name. How special only time would bear witness to.

In short order here, two quick, lethal flicks of his wrists to be precise, Brett Hull will become only the sixth player in NHL history to reach the 700-goal plateau. And when it does, Hull will join Wayne Gretzky, Gordie Howe, Marcel Dionne, Phil Esposito and Mike Gartner in the very exclusive Assassins Club.

Marvel in the accomplishment. Because this a feat unlikely to be repeated more than once more in our lifetime.

Oh, Mario Lemieux will get there, if he can as much as stand for another, oh, 40 games or so, being only 26 goals

shy of 700. But after that, who? Mark Messier still needs 29. Maybe next season or the season after, if he stays healthy enough. Luc Robitaille, 76. Nope. Steve Yzerman, 42. A pity about the knee, but it's doubtful, at 37.

Age, injury and the changing face of the game have caught up to many of Hull's prolific peers.

## Rangers shut out Isles

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Bryan Trottier would've enjoyed this New York Rangers victory no matter where it took place.

The former New York Islanders great returned to Nassau Coliseum with the arch enemy and left with a 5-0 win Tuesday night that gave the Rangers a key two points as they make a push for the playoffs.

"I think there is something special coming into this building," Trottier said. "The fact is we got two points and we're happy about that. It was a total

team effort."

Matthew Barnaby scored twice, and Mike Dunham made 31 saves in beating the Islanders in Trottier's first game on Long Island as coach of the Rangers.

"We wanted to win for Bryan coming back here and we wanted

See **SPORTS**, Page 6



*Brett Hull registered his first of five 50-goal seasons with St. Louis in 1989-90. His last was 1993-94.*



## 2002 National Hockey League standings

### Eastern Conference

#### Atlantic

(2) Philadelphia	47 pts
(4) New Jersey	45 pts
(7) N.Y. Islanders	47 pts
(8) Pittsburgh	48 pts
N.Y. Rangers	50 pts

#### Northeast

(1) Ottawa	48 pts
(5) Toronto	48 pts
(6) Boston	47 pts
Montreal	49 pts
Buffalo	46 pts

#### Southeast

(3) Washington	35 pts
Tampa Bay	35 pts
Florida	34 pts
Carolina	35 pts
Atlanta	33 pts

### Western Conference

#### Central

(3) St. Louis	49 pts
(4) Detroit	47 pts
(7) Chicago	48 pts
Columbus	48 pts
Nashville	47 pts

#### Northwest

(2) Vancouver	48 pts
(5) Minnesota	48 pts
(6) Edmonton	48 pts
Colorado	46 pts
Calgary	48 pts

#### Pacific

(1) Dallas	49 pts
(8) Anaheim	47 pts
Los Angeles	46 pts
Phoenix	47 pts
San Jose	46 pts



## **SPORTS**, from Page 5

to win for ourselves and the two points,” Dunham said. “We played a really solid game.”

Barnaby was a key participant in near-fights in the pregame warmup. He then gave the Rangers a 1-0 lead in the first period and a 3-0 advantage 38 seconds into the second for his sixth career two-goal effort.

“There was a lot of emotion in the game anyway,” Barnaby said. “Your adrenaline gets pumping in a big game, and to control ourselves the way we did — it was a huge game for us.”

### **Fleury being evaluated after incident at club**

**CHICAGO** — Theo Fleury said Wednesday he’d made a “bad choice” and was ready to accept the consequences after Ohio police said he was intoxicated following an altercation at a strip club.

“I made a bad decision,” said Fleury, who was suspended for the first 25 games of the season after violating the NHL’s substance abuse aftercare program.

“Whatever the consequences are, I’m fully aware. I’ll deal with the consequences when they happen.”

Blackhawks coach Brian Sutter said the matter was being handled internally.

“Something happened that we regret and it’s being handled

internally,” Sutter said. “Do we like it? No, but it’s being handled internally.”

Fleury met with Blackhawks general manager Steve Smith on Tuesday. NHL spokesman Frank Brown would not comment on whether the league has been notified of the incident. Fleury is under the supervision of two doctors as part of the NHL’s aftercare program.

### **Lemieux likely to miss Thursday’s game**

**PITTSBURGH** — Mario Lemieux, the NHL’s leading scorer, missed practice again Wednesday because of a groin injury and is likely to sit out Thursday night’s game against Boston.

Lemieux has missed six of the Penguins’ last seven games, and played only a few shifts in the one game in which he appeared.

Lemieux tried skating Monday in Buffalo but quickly cut short the workout, saying he still had discomfort. He said at the time he probably wouldn’t skate again for a few days.

After Thursday’s game, the Penguins will play again Saturday afternoon at home game against Chicago.

Meanwhile, goalie Johan Hedberg (broken collarbone) worked out after practice, but is still believed to have a couple of weeks of recovery left.

Without Hedberg, the Penguins were 3-1-1 on their just-concluded road trip.

# Tae Kwon Do

**Beginning Jan. 28, the Republic of Korea Coalition forces will begin offering Tae Kwon Do classes.**

**The classes will be held at the Dragon Palace Morale, Welfare and Recreation building, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 0130Z (0600L) to 0230Z (0700Z).**

**Classes will be led by Sa Beom (fourth degree black belt instructor) Republic of Korea Sgt. Taehyi Kang.**



kevin\_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

## *Laugh Support*